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NOTE VERBALE DATED 15 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF LATVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Latvia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to bring to his attention a statement dated 13 July 1993 by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Latvia on a decision adopted by the Russian Federation Supreme Council Presidium which foresees the presentation to the Russian Federation Supreme Council the issue which comprises the denunciation of the Treaty of Peace between the Republic of Latvia and the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic, signed at Riga on 11 August 1920 (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of Latvia to the United Nations should be grateful if the Secretary-General of the United Nations would have the text of this note and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Annex

Statement dated 13 July 1993 by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia

The Russian Federation Supreme Council Presidium has adopted a decision which foresees the presentation to the Russian Federation Supreme Council the issue which comprises the denunciation of the Treaty of Peace between the Republic of Latvia and the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic, signed at Riga on 11 August 1920.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Latvia understands such a decision as an unfriendly act in relation to Latvia which could only bring forth further confrontation, especially in view of the fact that the matter concerns the treaty of peace which ended the state of war between these two States. The decision of the Supreme Council Presidium is an open attempt to revise the border between Latvia and Russia, which was defined in the 1920 Treaty of Peace.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs points out that if the Russian Federation Supreme Council should adopt such a decision, then a dangerous precedent would be created, which from an international law as well as from a practical viewpoint could bring forth unpredictable consequences. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs considers that the proposed denunciation of the currently valid treaty of peace could only threaten the development of favourable State relations between Latvia and the Russian Federation.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs expresses the hope that the Russian Federation Supreme Council will be able to refrain from a purely emotional resolution of this issue.